

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/919,538

Examiner

VAN H. NGUYEN

Applicant(s)

BABKA ET AL.

Art Unit

2194

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's amendments filed 11/01/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2, 5-10, 20, 21, and 24-30 (now renumbered as 1-17).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>01/07/2003</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed November 01, 2006.

Claims 1, 2, 5-10, 20, 21, and 24-30 are pending in this application. By this Examiner's amendment, claims 1, 5, 20, 24, and 30 have been amended; and claims 3, 4, 22, and 23 have been cancelled.

2. **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT:**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael E. Monaco (Reg. No. 52, 041) on December 19, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

- (a) All previous copies of claims 1, 5, 20, 24, and 30 have been replaced with the following clean copy of claims 1, 5, 20, 24, and 30 as amended by the Examiner's amendment:**

Claim 1. A video conference network platform for managing at least two video conference network devices each having unique operational attributes, the video conference network platform comprising:

a video conference network interface module operable to interface with the at least two video conference network devices and to represent of the at least two video conference network devices as corresponding interface objects;

an adapter engine associated with the video conference network interface module and operable to create a corresponding application object for each of said at least two video conference network devices, each application object corresponding to a respective interface object and having a common format, each application object including operational attributes obtained via an interrogation of the respective video conference device by the adapter engine;

one or more management applications operable to manage the at least two video conference network devices via their respective application and interface objects; and

a discovery engine associated with the video conference network interface, the discovery engine operable to detect each of the at least two video conference network devices and initiate creation of an object to represent each detected video conference network device;

wherein the discovery engine initiates creation of an application object by the adapter engine, the adapter engine further operable to initiate creation of a corresponding interface object by the video conference network interface.

Claim 5. The video conference network platform of Claim 1 wherein the adapter engine incorporates attributes of the interface object into the corresponding application object.

Claim 20. A method of managing at least two video conference network devices each having unique operational attributes, the method comprising:

interfacing a video conference network interface module with the at least two video conference network devices and representing the at least two video conference network devices as corresponding interface objects;

creating an application object for each of said at least two video conference network devices, each application object corresponding to a respective

interface object and having a common format, each application object including operational attributes obtained via an interrogation of the respective video conference device;

managing the at least two video conference network devices via their respective application and interface objects by one or more management applications; and

detecting each of the at least two video conference network devices with a discovery engine and initiating creation of an application object to represent each detected video conference network device;

wherein the step of initiating creation of an application object is followed by creation of the application object and initiating creation of a corresponding interface object.

Claim 24. The method of Claim 20 further comprising incorporating, by an adapter engine, attributes of the interface object into the corresponding application object.

Claim 30. A video conference system, comprising: at least one video conference end point; and the video conference network platform recited in Claim 1.

(b) Claims 3, 4, 22, and 23 have been cancelled.

3. **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE:**

Claims 1, 2, 5-10, 20, 21, and 24-30 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not expressly teach or render obvious the invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 20.

The features as recited in independent claims 1 and 20 *"creating an application object for each of said at least two video conference network devices, each application object corresponding to a respective interface object and having a common format, each application object including operational attributes obtained via an interrogation of the respective video conference device; and detecting each of the at least two video conference network devices with a discovery engine and initiating creation of an application object to represent each detected video conference network device; wherein the step of initiating creation of an application object is followed by creation of the application object and initiating creation of a corresponding interface object"*, when taken in the context of the claims as a whole, was not uncovered in the prior art teachings.

Nor were references uncovered that would have provided a basis of evidence for

asserting a motivation that one of ordinary skill level in the art at the time the invention was made, knowing of method of managing video conference network devices in this specific environment, would have integrated or modified to teach the method for managing video network devices through a centralized video network platform including the specific features as recited in the context of independents 1 and 20.

Dependent claims are allowed as they depend upon allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONTACT INFORMATION

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-3765. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM - 6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM THOMSON can be reached at (571) 272-3718.

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The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for patents
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Van H. Nguyen", with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Van H. Nguyen
Patent Examiner, AU 2194